

Confidential Claim Retracted

Authorized by: SC

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February 14, 1964

MINE INSPECTION REPORT  
JACKPILE and PUGUATE MINE  
UNITED PUEBLO AGENCY  
LAGUNA PUEBLO RESERVATION  
VALENCIA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

by  
James W. Hager  
Mining Engineer

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
BRANCH OF MINING OPERATIONS  
CONSERVATION DIVISION

On January 28, 1964, the mining lease held by the Anaconda Company on the Laguna Pueblo Reservation was examined. The lease was previously examined November 19, 1963, when a joint inspection with the U. S. Bureau of Mines was made. The mines are located about 8½ miles north of Laguna, Valencia County, New Mexico.

Stripping was continuing at the Puguat pit at a rate of about 175,000 tons per month. Only a small amount of ore was mined. The ore from lenses that extend upward into the overburden is selectively mined, by bulldozer with ripper teeth. This ore is then sent through the scanner and eventually to one of the ore pads.

All ore sent to the mill was from the stock piles in the Jackpile pit. Three train loads of ore per week are sent to the Bluewater Mill. The ore from the stockpiles in the Jackpile will be sent to the mill before the Puguat ore is started through the mill.

On date of examination the mining of the ore in the bottom of the Jackpile pit was continuing. One D-9 Catapillar equipped with ripper teeth was ripping the soft ore. The ore was pushed into a pile by a bulldozer after ripping. The ore was then loaded into trucks by a 3/4 yard diesel shovel. The ore from the bottom was of a very high grade averaging about 0.7%  $U_3O_8$ .

There was a total of 108 men employed at the mines. Only one shift was worked each day, 5 days a week.



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No safety violations or violations of the lease terms were noted during the examination.

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Orig. to: Supt., United Pueblo, Albuquerque  
cc: Comm., Office of Indian Affairs  
: Chief, Branch of Mining Operations  
: Bureau of Mines, Denver  
: Files